were a few matters yet which required looking into. *Theendal* was one of them. Representations on that matter had been made more than once ; still their prayers had not been granted. On the other hand, notice-boards, which had fallen or disappeared, were again put up in certain localities prohibiting the use of such localities by Ezhavas and other backward communities. In South Travancore and North Travancore objectionable notice-boards were still in existence which not only prevented them from using certain public places but were also insulting to their self-respect. He appealed to Government to take immediate remedial measures and see that they got access at least as far as the outer walls of temples. Touching the question of the appointment of Ezhavas and other backward classes in the public service, there were, no doubt, circulars and official instructions ; but they were not being obeyed. It was desirable that a certain number of appointments should be set apart for such backward communities. The Member also submitted that, in spite of Government's solicitude to see that all minor interests were represented in the Assembly, there were some unrepresented communities such as Kammalars and Channars who regarded it as a grievance that no nomination was made from them for the Assembly. Their desire too should be satisfied.

Dewan's reply.—The attention of Heads of Departments and Offices will once again be drawn to the provisions of Government Circular requiring that preference in the matter of appointments should be given to Ezhavas and Mahomedans, qualifications being equal. The other points are noted.

155. Need for the removal of the restrictions that now exist in regard to the exercise of certain common rights.

Mr. P. Madhavan Vaidyan (Member, Nominated) endorsed the views of Mr. Kumaran Asan and supported him.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

156. Certain disabilities of the Indian Christians, particularly of South Travancore.

Mr. K. Paul B. A. & B. L. (Member, Nominated) represented that the Indian Christians on whose behalf he was speaking comprised people from lower orders and included Roman Catholics, Protestants, &c. They lived from Kallada to Cape Comorin and their disabilities were social, economic and political. Under the first heading *theendal* came first. It was a source of trouble and hardship to them that, on account of *theendal*, they should be debarred from having access to public places of business. He referred to the treatment accorded to Pulayas in the General Hospital as an instance of hardship and said that it was the result of *theendal*. It was an admitted fact that economically they were suffering misery. The only solution was to give them waste lands for cultivation. Another suggestion made by the Member was that a large area of waste land might be reserved to be worked by them, where general and Industrial schools should be opened so as to make every one of them earn a living. Lastly, the Member requested that Government appointments might be given them in the various departments.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

157. Suggestions for removing the disabilities of the Muslims of the State.

Mr. S. Adam Sait (Member, Nominated) conveyed his grateful acknowledgments to His Highness the Maha Raja for the boons conferred on the Muslim community of the State and for the gracious solicitude evinced to promote their material advancement. He then submitted that the beneficent orders issued by Government were not being obeyed as strictly as they should have been. In the matter of education, the number of Mahomedan scholars had been increasing from 1090 to 1093, because Government were good enough to act on suggestions made, such as the appointment of Arabic Munshis. Till now only English Schools had Arabic Munshis, which fact was responsible for the increase of students in the English schools. The

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strength in the Vernacular Schools decreased not because of economic distress as explained in the Administration Report but on account of the non-appointment of Munshis in Vernacular schools. It was to be regretted that Arabic Munshis had not been appointed even in the special schools for Muslims on account of which those schools had been threatened with a fall in strength. The Member, therefore, requested that Arabic Munshis might be appointed without any further delay in all English and Vernacular schools and also in mixed schools. The Member then complained that the instructions issued in G. O. No. E. 1989, dated 31st May 1919, for the teaching of Koran were not being followed. The Member next urged the larger employment of qualified Muslims in the State service and the need for a Hostel for them, as considerable difficulties were being felt by poor Mahomedans who were anxious to give English education to their sons. The Member finally requested that a Committee be appointed to enquire into the question of inheritance among the Muslims in the State and place it on a sound basis.

Dewan's reply.—In regard to the last question, I may at once say that there are practical difficulties in Government interfering with inheritance among the Mahomedan community. It is a matter entirely for the community to settle. The other points are noted.

The Assembly adjourned at 7-25 P. M.

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